GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4525
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2001
AYURVEDA
PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in rural and semi-rural areas, more than 60 per cent of the people prefer Ayurveda to allopathic medicine;

(b) if so, the reasons for not promoting Ayurveda in remotest areas of the country; and

(c) the details of the number of Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries and hospitals with number of doctors working in them at present?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a) Ayurveda is popular in the rural areas. However, no study has revealed that 60 percent of the people prefer Ayurveda.

(b) Majority of Ayurvedic hospitals and dispensaries are located in the rural areas. The Government has published essential drugs list of Ayurveda which should be stocked in dispensaries and hospitals. States are being advised to procure drugs of our systems under the funds available under Pradhan Mantri`s Gramodaya Yojna. IEC activities are also being supported for propagation of Ayurveda in rural areas.

(c) There are 3000 hospitals and 14793 dispensaries under Ayurveda and 308 hospitals and 963 dispensaries under Unani System functioning in the country. As per the available information, there are 427504 doctors in Ayurveda and 42445 doctors in Unani system practicing in the country.